HOW THE NCAA WORKS:

ASSOCIATION-WIDE

Each division governs its day-to-day needs, but on broad issues that affect college athletics as a whole, the NCAA Board of Governors and a collection of committees set the course for the Association.

While each NCAA division is empowered with setting its own rules and operating guidelines, some topics rise to a level affecting college sports as a whole and need a coordinated voice to guide the Association in a unified direction. For those situations, a group of committees comprising representatives from all three divisions makes recommendations that can impact the entire Association — whether a small, private Division III school or a national champion Football Bowl Subdivision program — equally.

The Association-wide committees work collaboratively with each division's governance bodies to recommend legislation. These committees explore issues impacting sports rules changes, the health and safety of student-athletes or opportunities for women and minority groups in college sports, and recommend changes to the appropriate legislative groups.

The NCAA Board of Governors, the highest-ranking committee in the Association, can implement policies by which all three divisions must abide. When the NCAA stopped allowing schools to display the Confederate flag, it was through a recommendation from the Association-wide committees.

Changes in legislation, however, require each division to take action. The Association-wide groups propose changes to the committees in each division, which then debate and vote on the proposals through their legislative processes.

ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES

- **Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Committee**
  - 23 members:
    - 8 Division I
    - 7 Division II
    - 8 Division III

- **Honors Committee**
  - Selects recipients of awards presented at annual Honors Celebration, including Theodore Roosevelt and Inspiration awards.
  - 9 members:
    - 2 Division I
    - 3 Division II
    - 4 Division III

- **Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee**
  - Reviews issues related to the interests of ethnic and racial minorities and women.
  - 10 members:
    - 2 Division I
    - 3 Division II
    - 5 Division III

- **Olympic Sports Committee**
  - Facilitates communication among the NCAA, the U.S. Olympic Committee and the national governing bodies of Olympic sports.
  - 14 members:
    - 6 Division I
    - 4 Division II
    - 4 Division III

- **Postgraduate Scholarship Committee**
  - Selects 17 student-athletes to receive NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships for graduate school.
  - 7 members:
    - 6 Division I
    - 1 Division II

- **Research Committee**
  - Evaluates, supervises and coordinates the Association’s research activities.
  - 10 members:
    - 6 Division I
    - 3 Division II

- **Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct**
  - Promotes the values of respect, fairness, civility, honesty and responsibility in college sports.
  - 11 members:
    - 3 Division I
    - 3 Division II
    - 5 Division III

- **Walter Byers Scholarship Committee**
  - Selects academically and athletically distinguished student-athletes to receive scholarships.
  - 6 members:
    - 2 Division I
    - 2 Division II
    - 2 Division III

- **Committee on Women’s Athletics**
  - Studies and makes policy recommendations concerning opportunities for women, and other issues directly affecting women’s athletics.
  - 18 members:
    - 6 Division I
    - 6 Division II
    - 6 Division III

Association-wide committees can effect change by making recommendations to the Board of Governors, which has the power to set policies — such as prohibiting racism and imagery considered hostile or abusive to Native Americans — that affect the entire Association.

**ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEE MISSIONS**

- **Assists the Board of Governors** with planning and policy recommendations.
- **Champions initiatives** through the Association’s legislative processes.
- **Advocates for solutions** related to the interests of ethnic and racial minorities and women.
- **Encourages collaboration** among the NCAA, the U.S. Olympic Committee and the national governing bodies of Olympic sports.
- **Supports the values** of respect, fairness, civility, honesty and responsibility in college sports.
- **Promotes academic and athletic excellence** for student-athletes.
- **Reviews competition issues** related to the interests of ethnic and racial minorities and women.
- ** coordinates the Association’s research activities.**
- **Handles the recruitment process** for the Walter Byers Scholarship.
- **Selects student-athletes** to receive NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships for graduate school.

**ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEE KEY**

- **Legislative path**
  - Presidents Council
  - Presidents Council delegates
  - Voting Board Members

- **Pros & Cons**
  - Faculty Athletics Advisors
  - Student-athletes

- **Industry**
  - Media
  - Marketing staff

- **Other**
  - Interim
  - Independent

- **Guests**
  - Board members
  - Presidents

- **Topical committees**
  - Committee on Legislative Oversight (NCAA)
  - Committee on Student-Athlete Health and Safety (NCAA)
  - Governance: Division I (NCAA)

- **Divisional committees**
  - Division I Presidents Council
  - Division II Presidents Council
  - Division III Presidents Council

- **Special committees**
  - Group of Presidents (NCAA)

- **Regional groups**
  - Atlantic Coast Conference
  - Big Ten Conference
  - Big 12 Conference
  - Pac-12 Conference

- **Conference groups**
  - Southeastern Conference
  - Pac-12 Conference

- **Divisional boards**
  - Division I Board of Directors
  - Division II Board of Directors
  - Division III Board of Directors

- **National offices**
  - NCAA President
  - NCAA Staff

- **Support teams**
  - Research
  - Advertising

- **Event advisory committees**
  - Tournament Committee
  - Championship Committee

- **Standing committees**
  - Legislative
  - Legislative Oversight

- **Regulatory bodies**
  - NCAA俳
  - NCAA conference
  - NCAA board

- **Rules review**
  - Rules Committee
  - Rules Oversight Panel

- **Policy development**
  - Board of Governors
  - Presidents Council
  - Divisional governing bodies

- **Rule changes**
  - Change in legislation
  - Change in rules
  - Change in procedures

- **Decision-making**
  - Board of Governors
  - Presidents Council
  - Voting Board Members

- **Sponsorship**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Staff support**
  - NCAA Staff
  - NCAA representatives

- **Scheduling**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Influence**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Policy and governance**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Rules adoption**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Institutional governance**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Rule interpretation**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Reporting**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Education**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Research**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Regulation**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Legislation**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Policy analysis**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Policy development**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference

- **Rule interpretation**
  - NCAA
  - NCAA conference